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**TITLE:** METHOD AND DEVICE FOR  
APPLYING A SELF-ADHESIVE  
PROTECTIVE FILM TO CAR BODIES  
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**ABSTRACT:**

CHG DATE=19991002 STATUS=O>The invention relates to a method for the automated, series application of a self-adhesive protective film onto parts of the surfaces of car bodies, and to a device for carrying out said method. According to said method a piece of film withdrawn from a supply roll is loaded into a supply station such that it is stretched in a crease-free manner by means of at least one holding element. Next the piece of film is transferred to an application station. To this end the piece of film is held by means of at least one holding element guided by an application robot, withdrawn to and cut at the desired length, held at opposite edges while maintaining the crease-free, stretched state and taken up by the application station. The next piece of film, which is delivered by the withdrawal of the first piece of film, is held in a stretched manner by the at least one holding element of the supply station. Lastly the piece of film transferred to the application station is applied by being lowered by the at least one application robot in the correct position onto the assigned surface part of the car body and being pressed against same without the formation of creases or bubbles.